

REMARKS

The Examiner's Action dated February 15, 2007, has been received, and its contents carefully noted.

In order to advance prosecution, the claims have been amended to overcome the formal rejection presented in the last Action, and to more clearly define the contribution of the invention over the prior art.

Specifically, in response to the rejection presented in Section 3 of the Action, the recitation "irrespective of the color or colors of said uniform" has been deleted from the independent claims. The only purpose of that added recitation was to set forth more clearly that the colors employed need not to be identical to the uniform colors. Indeed, a number of the original dependent claims, such as claim 6, already specify that the score indication portions are colored each in non-identical color as that of the uniform and this possibility is disclosed in the present specification, for example at page 7, lines 25-28. Since, however, the wording of the independent claims is sufficiently broad to encompass this variation, it is believed that cancellation of the passage considered by the Examiner to be objectionable does not alter the scope of the claims.

In order to more clearly define the contribution of the invention over the reference applied in

Section 5 of the Action, each of the independent claims has been amended to specify that the score indication consists of one of three specific possibility that are not disclosed in or suggested by the applied reference. Support for the language that has been added to each of the independent claims will be found in the specification, as originally filed, at page 6, lines 19-26 and page 7, lines 18-20.

The rejection presented in Section 5 of the Action is traversed for the reason that the applied reference does not disclose any of the specific score indications now defined in each of the independent claims.

The applied reference only discloses applying colors to the backgrounds of the letters identifying the competing teams, or applying to the lettering of each team name a single color that is the same color as the team jerseys. These are the only possibilities described in the text accompanying the drawings of the application and in paragraph [0013] of the reference application.

The specific score identification schemes to which the independent claims of the present application are now limited provide a variety of new possibilities for identifying the competing teams, which are not disclosed in the applied reference.

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Reply to Office Action of February 15, 2007

Accordingly, it is requested that the prior art rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn, that the pending claims be allowed and that the application be found in allowable condition.

If the above amendment should not now place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to call undersigned counsel to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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